Attorney's Docket No.:17101-025001/826

Applicant: Hickok et.al Serial No.: 10/774,144

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Preliminary Amendment with RCE

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 17, cancel claims 1-15 and 19-64 without prejudice or disclaimer, and add claims 65 and 66 as follows. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings of claims, in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

- 1. -16. Cancelled.
- 17. (Currently Amended) A method of screening and treating a subject, comprising:
- (a) monitoring the level of a marker of preterm or imminent delivery fetal fibronectin in a body fluid sample from a subject; and
- (b) if the level <u>of fetal fibronectin</u> is indicative of a risk for preterm or imminent delivery, administering <u>17-α- hydroxyprogesterone caproate</u> a progestational agent, whereby <u>preterm</u> delivery is delayed, wherein the progestational agent is selected from among progesterone, 17-α- hydroxyprogesterone, 17-α- hydroxyprogesterone caproate and an omega-3 fatty acid.
- 18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the level is equal to or above a predetermined level.
 - 19. 64.
 - 65. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein the body fluid sample is vaginal fluid.
 - 66. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the body fluid sample is vaginal fluid.